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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 26 November 1991, the General Assembly adopted resolution 46/20 by which, inter alia, it took note of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) (A/46/468 and Add.1 and 2) and of his efforts to strengthen this cooperation and to implement the relevant resolutions. It noted with appreciation the increasing and continued participation of OAU in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and its constructive contribution to that work and also the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of OAU to reactivate the consultative mechanism between the two organizations, commended the continued efforts of OAU to promote multilateral cooperation and economic integration among African States and requested the United Nations system to continue to lend its support to those efforts.

2. By the same resolution, the General Assembly urged all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations to provide economic and technical assistance to African countries of asylum to enable them to withstand the heavy burden imposed on their limited resources and weak infrastructure by the presence in their countries of large numbers of refugees. The Assembly reaffirmed that the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF) 1/ would necessitate the full participation of the international community, in particular of the Governments, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and emphasized the importance and the need to ensure follow-up to and monitoring and implementation of the New Agenda in accordance with General Assembly decisions. It called upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to work in close coordination with the Secretary-General of OAU, in particular on follow-up to and review and evaluation of the implementation of the New Agenda. It urged the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system to extend their support and cooperation to the member States and the Secretary-General of OAU for the effective organizational arrangement and smooth functioning of the African Economic Community.

II. CONSULTATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

3. On 4 October 1991, President Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria addressed the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session (A/46/PV.22). In his address, President Babangida reviewed the political, economic and social developments in Africa. He discussed efforts by Africa to resolve the continent's conflicts, including conflicts in Liberia, Rwanda and the Horn of Africa. He also discussed the establishment of the African Economic Community.

4. During the period under review, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of OAU, acting within the framework of General Assembly resolution 45/21 of 20 November 1990 and in the exercise of their good offices, continued their efforts towards achieving a solution to the question of Western Sahara.

III. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Department of Economic and Social Development of the Secretariat

5. The Department of Economic and Social Development of the Secretariat has been strongly committed to assisting Africa in its efforts for growth and development. Project delivery in Africa reached a record high in 1991, amounting to $85 million or about 47 per cent of the Department's total technical cooperation delivery for the year. Three main areas received primary attention: institution-building; human resources development; and natural resources exploration, exploitation and management. Within this context, the Department emphasized macroeconomic policy inputs, integrated rural development and effective and durable utilization of natural resources.

6. The Department has stationed planning teams in many African countries in projects executed by the Department and funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Department has been heavily involved in related advisory services funded by the United Nations regular programme of technical cooperation.

7. In the sector of science and technology, the Department is undertaking, in close cooperation with the OAU secretariat, a case study and an analysis of the role of science and technology in enhancing industrialization and economic integration among countries in the new African Economic Community.

8. The Department has sought to participate actively in the reviews of assistance to African countries, as it believes it has much to offer. In 1991, it was entrusted with substantive work in relation to aid coordination and management activities in several African countries. As to the follow-up to the New Agenda for African Economic Recovery and Development, the Department is involved in related technical support.

9. In view of the extraordinary difficulties facing the least developed countries (LDCs) and the priority assigned to them, the Department has been engaged in many activities to help cope with the development challenges that will determine their future. It has expanded its assistance to LDCs in various sectors. In 1991, this amounted to about 400 projects totalling expenditures of about $65 million. Guidelines for the use of the Department's allocation of funds from the United Nations regular programme of technical cooperation give special consideration to the needs of LDCs. This has enabled the Department to respond to requests from LDCs for numerous advisory and

other technical missions covering project preparation, management and implementation, resource mobilization, strengthening of institutional infrastructure, training, national budget preparation, regional planning and integrated rural development.

10. An innovative effort, begun in 1990 and funded by the United Nations regular programme of technical cooperation and Japan, is the initiative by the Department and Japan for Financing the Human, Institutional, Technical and Management Capacities of Developing Countries in Development Planning (with a special focus on Africa). Commonly known as the "Africa Initiative", this project supports workshops, needs assessment studies and upgrading of planning institutions. In 1991, an interregional workshop on new approaches in regional planning was convened in Senegal. In order to set the substantive framework for the interregional symposium on promoting accelerated development in Africa on perspectives from the Asian experience, scheduled for early 1992, a preliminary session was held in 1991 in Malaysia. This gathering was used to launch a series of research studies comparing development strategies and policies in the two regions. A series of evaluations of the effect and impact of technical cooperation projects in planning and economic management in selected countries has also been under way, as have preparations for a 1992 workshop on long-term perspective planning. The entire endeavour is aimed at producing useful findings and recommendations, and enhancement of the skills of a number of senior officials engaged in planning and economic management.

B. Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat - Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator

11. Cooperation during the period under review was focused mainly on two issues: the OAU Regional Meeting on Disasters and implementation of the Disaster Management Training Programme in Africa.

12. The objective of the OAU Regional Meeting on Disasters was to identify project priorities at the national, subregional and regional levels, for implementation during the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, in cooperation with the United Nations system and the international community. The idea of the meeting received the full support of an inter-agency meeting held in Geneva from 25 to 27 April 1990 with the participation of a number of United Nations offices and agencies, including the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO). During this meeting, UNDRO pledged to provide a consultant to the OAU secretariat to study the different aspects of disasters in Africa and subsequently to help in the preparation of the regional meeting. At the request of the OAU secretariat, a consultant from UNDRO travelled several times to Addis Ababa to assist in this endeavour. Two UNDRO staff members travelled to six African countries simultaneously (one per subregion) to collect information in support of the meeting. The six countries were Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Djibouti and United Republic of Tanzania. They met in Djibouti with representatives of the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and

Development (IGADD) and in Burkina Faso with the Permanent Interstate Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS). A questionnaire in the English and French languages was prepared by UNDRO and forwarded to African States and relevant African organizations and institutions for collecting pertinent information on disaster preparedness and mitigation which was used as an important tool in the preparation as well as in the deliberations of the meeting.

13. In addition, UNDRO also prepared, at the request of OAU, five papers on policies, institution-building and legislation for land use management in disaster-prone countries, flood and cyclone disasters in Africa, training for disaster management, funding for disaster mitigation programmes, and a background on disasters (regional and subregional cooperation, strengthening of existing disaster management capacities) which were presented at the meeting.

14. The Disaster Management Training Programme in Africa was launched in July 1990 under the joint management of UNDP and UNDRO. The programme aims at developing and improving the technical capability of African countries in disaster management through the strengthening of the existing mechanisms and training in vulnerable African countries. A Plan of Action was established in 1991 and subsequently launched during the OAU Regional Meeting on Disasters in Africa, held at Addis Ababa from 13 to 17 April 1992 The programmes included workshops in 16 anglophone countries. It is expected that by the end of 1992 workshops for some francophone countries will also be organized. Participation of an OAU official in the training-trainer's course is envisaged.

15. Finally, OAU representatives have been invited regularly to participate in seminars organized or sponsored by UNDRO on matters related to natural disasters and emergencies.

C. United Nations Children's Fund

16. Cooperation between the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and OAU has been further strengthened over the past year owing to the close working relationship in preparation for the convening of an OAU-sponsored International Conference on Assistance to African Children.

17. The idea for the convening of the proposed conference was contained in a landmark resolution adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU during its meeting, held from 3 to 5 June 1991 at Abuja, Nigeria. The resolution on the Implementation of the African Decade for Child Survival, Protection and Development is already leading to concrete action at the national level. Out of 128 countries in the world that, as at 31 March 1992, are reported to be preparing long-term national programmes of action, 45 are member States of OAU. In addition, out of 33 countries that have completed the formulation of national programmes of action, seven, namely, Central African Republic, Djibouti, Mali, Namibia, Tunisia, Senegal and the Sudan are States members of OAU.

18. UNICEF continues to regard Africa as a corporate priority. In its country programmes, UNICEF has been providing practical support for innovative actions in maternal and child health. The organization is now focusing on long-term goals for children in the 1990s.

19. As called for in the OAU resolution on the Implementation of the African Decade for Child Survival, Protection and Development, an International Conference on Assistance to African Children is to be convened from 25 to 27 November 1992 at Dakar. The proposed conference, which is a major follow-up activity to the World Summit for Children, will be structured as a dialogue between Africa, the donors and the international community. Additional resources will be mobilized both from within Africa and the donor community.

20. With regard to the first annual commemoration of the Day of the African Child, many countries in Africa, with assistance from UNICEF, hosted a variety of special educational and cultural activities. The Day of the African Child, which is in memory of the uprising and the massacre of the children of Soweto, South Africa, in 1976, is an annual event offering Governments, non-governmental organizations, international agencies, the media, the general public, and children in particular, a special opportunity to focus on the needs of Africa's children and the measures which are being taken to meet those needs.

21. A strategy paper issued by UNICEF sought the collaboration of Governments of member States and the Ministries of Health, Education, Youth, Women, Culture and Sports, as well as religious leaders, parliamentarians, artists and intellectuals, non-governmental organizations and the media. Suggested activities include, a children's parliament, a children's forum and a conference or symposium on the plight of the African child. Most of these activities achieved unexpected levels of success.

22. Innovative activities for the first commemoration of the Day of the African Child were organized by 48 of the 51 member States of OAU. A wide variety of programmes and events took place as 11 nations based their programmes on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and six commemorated the preparation of a National Programme of Action as called for in the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children, and restated in the relevant OAU resolution. Presidents or Prime Ministers took an active role in activities in nine countries, while in several others the first ladies took an active role. Media coverage of the Day of the African Child was generally excellent.

23. In 1992, in particular, the Day of the African Child offers an opportunity for linking advocacy activities to a review of progress made in the preparatory process of the national programmes of action and the International Conference on Assistance to African Children. UNICEF is working closely with OAU for the successful outcome of the international conference.

D. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

24. In the area of trade, the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has continued to carry out technical cooperation activities in African countries on the generalized system of preferences (GSP), export policies, privatization and restructuring of trade-related public enterprises, trade policy reforms and services. In close cooperation with OAU, and within the framework of its African multilateral trade negotiations project (RAF/87/157), the UNCTAD secretariat has continued to extend technical assistance to African participants in the Uruguay Round. This involved giving direct support to African negotiators in Geneva and sensitizing African policy makers on key negotiating issues through brainstorming sessions, seminars and participating in the intergovernmental meetings organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and OAU. UNCTAD also participated in the eleventh session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade and contributed to the deliberations of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State or Government at its twenty-seventh session, held at Abuja, Nigeria, in June 1991 on the Uruguay Round and trade issues in general. These efforts were aimed at achieving a deeper understanding of the complex issues facing African negotiators in the Uruguay Round and enhancing their negotiating capacity with a view to defending their trade and economic interests.

25. In the area of commodities, the UNCTAD secretariat, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/178 B of 19 December 1990, prepared a draft study on the implementation of diversification in the commodity sector in Africa at the national, subregional and regional levels with the support of the international community. The task of preparing the final version of this study was assigned to a special Inter-Agency Task Force, under the coordination of ECA. The OAU secretariat was very closely involved in the workings of the Task Force, and its representatives actively participated in all three meetings of the drafting groups. The final study (A/46/324/Add.1) was appended to the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UNPAAERD) which was submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

26. OAU has expressed an interest and volunteered to co-sponsor technical assistance activities focusing on exchanges of experience to assist developing countries in improving their commodity-related export policies in terms of interacting with international marketing systems, assisting the diversification of commodity exports and adapting to liberalization of commodity export marketing. A project involving activities in this area is being developed in the UNCTAD secretariat.

27. UNCTAD actively participated in and made substantive contributions to the OAU ministerial meetings and the preparatory meetings of experts leading to the ministerial meetings and meetings of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government. In particular, UNCTAD participated in the preparation of the African submission to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the United Nations

General Assembly on the final review and appraisal of UNPAAERD. Also, the UNCTAD secretariat has continued to contribute actively to the work of the bodies dealing with the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. UNCTAD participated in the work of the All-Africa Trade Fair Organizing Committee which has assigned to it the task of undertaking an evaluation of the commercial aspects of the trade fair to be held in September 1992 at Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

28. UNCTAD has continued to provide comprehensive support, including advisory services and technical assistance, to efforts at economic cooperation and integration of groupings of developing countries and their secretariats in Africa. In this connection, UNCTAD contributed to the work, and participated in various meetings, of the OAU Permanent Steering Committee to consider and finalize the draft treaty establishing the African Economic Community and has expressed its readiness to participate in the activities leading to the establishment of the Community. UNCTAD is currently making contributions to the various protocols which have been drafted and are being finalized.

29. Giving practical effect to economic cooperation and integration as well as to the expansion of trading opportunities will require closer transport and communication links among African countries. In the area of shipping, UNCTAD has participated actively in several sectoral working groups established to identify key issues relative to the objectives of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II) and to recommend sectoral policies, strategies and programmes.

30. Among other projects, UNCTAD is providing technical assistance to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Ministerial Conference of West and Central African States on Maritime Transport in promoting the establishment of a subregional coastal shipping service in West and Central Africa and in developing and implementing an Advance Cargo Information System (ACIS) through three subregional projects in southern Africa, West/Central Africa and East/Central Africa. ACIS is intended to develop into a system of Electronic Data Interchange for use as a tool for trade facilitation.

31. In the area of technology transfer and development, the UNCTAD secretariat has continued to provide assistance to African countries in the light of the priorities identified by OAU. In particular, UNCTAD has assisted Malawi and Uganda, at the national level, in formulating projects on technology transfer and development and, within the framework of an ongoing project funded by UNDP, has organized a national seminar for Burundi on technological and development perspectives in the food processing sector.

E. United Nations Environment Programme

32. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has been strengthening its cooperation with OAU recently in the following nine priority areas:

(a) African Economic Community: UNEP has been making inputs into the AEC Protocol on the Environment;

(b) The first African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) convened by UNEP, ECA and OAU in December 1985 to assist African countries in developing the capacity to address environmental issues. Subsequently, UNEP has been assisting African countries in the strengthening of their environmental management institutions, in particular, by supporting the African Regional Programme of Cooperation on the Environment which was adopted by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment. The UNEP regional office for Africa hosts joint UNEP/ECA/OAU secretariat of AMCEN. OAU has chosen to tackle the persistent problem of food and energy security within the framework of the AMCEN Pilot Village Programme which is being implemented at present in nine African countries;

(c) Global agreements on the environment: OAU and UNEP have been cooperating closely, especially with regard to the negotiations on climate change and biodiversity;

(d) Regional Seas Programme: Actions undertaken have been aimed at the enhancement of the implementation of the four action plans of relevance to the region, namely, the Mediterranean, Western and Central Africa, Eastern Africa and the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden;

(e) Environmentally sound management of African rivers and lake basins: Within the framework of the Cairo Programme of Action of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, the Committee on Rivers and Lake Basins carried out activities aimed at providing additional impetus to subregional projects and programmes in the area of shared water resources. Implementation of cooperative shared water management programmes for the Zambezi Basin and for the Lake Chad Basin continued successfully. Initial meetings at the ministerial level were organized recently by UNEP for a Nile Basin programme;

(f) Desertification. UNEP cooperated with OAU and its member States in encouraging necessary actions at the national and subregional levels. A number of States have strengthened their Plans of Action to Combat Desertification;

(g) Environmental monitoring. Through the Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS)/UNITAR Africa Programme, support is being provided in setting up environmental information networks and systems, for example by using Geographical Information System techniques. Also the UNEP INFOTERRA Programme is active in some 20 African countries;

(h) Environmental legislation. More than 12 OAU member States were assisted in reviewing, formulating or reinforcing national environmental legislation;

(i) Environmental education and training: An Environmental Management Workshop was held at UNEP headquarters in November/December 1991 for key government personnel from OAU member States while, also under AMCEN Cairo Programme of Action, training courses and workshops are organized regularly on specific topics of environmental management.

F. United Nations Population Fund

33. Africa is a priority region for population funding by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), as attested to by the numerous country population programmes funded by UNFPA in the past two decades. While such assistance at the country level should continue, the coverage so far has been uneven, largely because some of the African countries are yet to appreciate fully the relationship of population to social and economic development and the need to formulate a comprehensive national population policy in order to achieve integrated population and development planning. Under the circumstances, OAU as the political organ of member States can play a critical and catalytic role in sensitizing member States to the role of population in the achievement of their development goals and in providing technical assistance to member States in the integration of population into their development processes.

34. On 20 February 1992, OAU and UNFPA officially launched a new major project (RAF/91/P11) entitled the "OAU Population and Development Policy Programme". The project aims at assisting the OAU secretariat in strengthening its institutional, technical and management capabilities which will enhance the promotion and coordination of population programmes and activities of the member States of OAU. The main thrust of the project is to raise the level of awareness regarding the role of population in the development process, including the need to formulate comprehensive population policies and to design appropriate implementation strategies. This project continues and expands efforts initiated under the previous project RAF/84/P08, "Strengthening of Population, Labour and Development Activities in the OAU Secretariat", which was funded by UNFPA from 1983 through 1987.

35. Under the aegis of project RAF/91/P11, OAU is to establish a Population and Development Section within its secretariat. The section will function as a central coordinating unit for all secretariat population activities, including the conduct of policy research and analysis, the provision of training for secretariat staff and the dissemination of population and development information through workshops and seminars.

36. In accordance with the decision already taken by its Council of Ministers, and within the framework of project RAF/91/P11, UNFPA will assist OAU to establish a population commission which will be a permanent institution of OAU and will be responsible for population and development matters. The commission is to ensure the efficient coordination, sensitization and

cooperation among governmental and non-governmental organizations dealing with population matters in Africa; undertake studies and provide the best technical knowledge and advice to the OAU Steering Committee on population trends and issues for future policy decisions to be taken by the population commission and the member States; and, promote and provide the relevant exchange and dissemination of information in the field of population and socio-economic development. The new section within the OAU secretariat will provide technical and advisory services to the population commission in the latter's efforts to present population and development issues for adoption by the Council of Ministers and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for consequent implementation by the respective member States, as appropriate.

37. OAU and UNFPA are now in the process of entering into a protocol which will promote enhanced collaboration and establish a framework for further cooperation between the two organizations.

38. In early 1991, UNFPA officially designated the UNFPA Country Director in Ethiopia to serve as representative liaison officer with OAU in order to promote increased and more timely collaboration between UNFPA and OAU.

39. UNFPA provided funding for seven participants to the OAU-sponsored Pan-African Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, held at Bamako, from 23 to 30 January 1991. The UNFPA Country Director in Mali attended the Conference on behalf of UNFPA. The UNFPA Country Director in Nigeria represented UNFPA at the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its twenty-seventh ordinary session, held at Abuja, Nigeria.

G. World Food Programme

40. During 1991, the World Food Programme (WFP) continued the high priority accorded to OAU member States. The Programme approved projects worth more than US$ 814 million in 1991 in support of development, refugee and emergency operations in these countries. Additional resources were provided to many African countries, many of which are LDCs, to reduce the burden of project implementation by meeting part of the costs of internal transport, storage and handling of WFP-supplied commodities. In view of the financial constraints faced by most African countries, increased amounts of non-food items were also provided to ensure efficient implementation of WFP-assisted projects. The biennial training programme was pursued and 1,900 counterpart staff from the region were trained in various fields, such as project assessment and implementation, monitoring, reporting and storage.

41. Development assistance provided by WFP was concentrated on the priority areas identified by OAU. Assistance to human resources development totalled US$ 82 million including school feeding at the primary and secondary levels, technical and vocational training and institutional feeding in social centres. Increased attention was given to efforts undertaken to mitigate the negative effects of structural adjustment on the very poor. In addition, projects with a total value of US$ 69 million were approved in support of rural development activities.

42. Humanitarian assistance provided by WFP exceeded US$ 646 million during the year. The sum of US$ 137 million was provided to areas stricken by drought or crop failure, while protracted refugee projects accounted for US$ 434 million, almost a threefold increase over the previous year. Resources amounting to US$ 75 million were targeted towards assistance to displaced persons.

43. WFP contributed to the development of intra-African trade through commodity purchases in the region. In 1991, the Programme purchased food commodities worth US$ 60 million in OAU member States.

44. In view of the region's pressing development problems, the World Bank and WFP undertook a joint study of food aid in the sub-Saharan region of Africa, which was completed in 1991. The study concluded that food aid is a significant development resource that should be used to attack hunger and poverty. It contains recommendations in an agenda for priority action in the 1990s.

H. Economic Commission for Africa

45. Cooperation between the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and OAU during the period from 1991 to 1992 consisted of two categories of ongoing activities. The first included sectoral activities in connection with implementation of the work programmes of the two organizations and the second covered the work of the joint OAU/ECA African Development Bank (AfDB) secretariat of the OAU Permanent Steering Committee on the establishment of the African Economic Community.

46. The main areas of inter-departmental cooperation between OAU and ECA during the period under review covered human resources, social development, transport and communications, statistics and information systems and industry. Such cooperation has been translated into joint sponsorship of background papers, the organization of intergovernmental meetings, seminars and workshops and the co-sponsoring and monitoring of specific programmes.

47. In human resources development and utilization, ECA worked closely with OAU and the International Labour Organisation (ILO)/Jobs and Skills Programme for Africa with respect to the employment crisis in Africa. Cooperation in the field of social development aimed mainly at the joint organization of the meetings of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs. ECA and OAU have been cooperating closely in the formulation and follow-up of the implementation of the Programme for the Second Transport and Communications Development Decade for Africa, and are jointly engaged in the preparation of a festival of arts which is planned by the Government of Madagascar to be held at Antananarivo, Madagascar, in 1992.

48. In the field of statistics, cooperation between ECA and OAU involved the provision, twice yearly, of data on the gross domestic product of individual member States of the organization. More substantive cooperation took place in

the development of the ECA Pan African Documentation and Information System (PADIS), since OAU is a member of the Regional Technical Committee and has direct access to the various databases maintained by PADIS. Also, OAU and ECA established a standing arrangement for cooperation in the field of industrial development, within the framework of a joint ECA/OAU/United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) committee for the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) and of provision of assistance to the African Group during the fourth session of the General Conference of UNIDO in November 1991.

49. The joint OAU/ECA/AfDB secretariat has embarked on all activities relating to the preparation of the various protocols and terms of reference for the basic studies, selection of consultants to be recruited and review of the preliminary drafts. It has also formulated a work programme for putting the African Economic Community into operation through the drafting of protocols and strengthening the subregional economic groupings.

50. For all major initiatives related to Africa's development, ECA and OAU have held consultations. Specifically, during the period from April 1991 to March 1992, the two organizations collaborated in the final review and appraisal of UNPAAERD, 1986-1990, and in support of the OAU ministerial contact group on the external debt crisis in Africa.

I. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

51. In furtherance of cooperation with OAU, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) (Habitat) developed and extended its technical cooperation activities in Africa at both national and regional levels in three main areas.

(a) National Shelter Strategy Formulation and Implementation: Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 43/181 of 20 December 1988 on a Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, UNCHS (Habitat) continued to assist several member States of OAU in the formulation and implementation of national shelter strategies within the framework of the Global Strategy. In response to requests from Governments, UNCHS (Habitat), independently and in collaboration with the Government of Finland, is implementing specific projects in this field in the Congo, Ghana, Mali, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Other projects in the pipeline are to be implemented in Angola, Benin, Ethiopia, Malawi, Namibia, Togo and Zambia. Two regional programmes on shelter strategies (one for francophone Africa, the other for anglophone Africa) have also been prepared. Funding for these two programmes, estimated at US$ 1.5 million per programme, is under consideration by UNDP;

(b) Urban management: Within the framework of the joint UNDP/World Bank/UNCHS Urban Management Programme, African countries will be able to draw upon a regional network of experts for country consultations and related action programmes in the areas of poverty alleviation, land management, infrastructure management, urban environmental management, and municipal

finance and administration. A regional municipal development programme has also been elaborated by UNCHS (Habitat) in collaboration with the World Bank and bilateral donors;

(c) Employment generation. Innovative projects with employment generation and improvement of living conditions for the urban poor as the main thrust have been planned by UNCHS (Habitat), ILO and United Nations Volunteers. It is envisaged that regional programmes and projects for Africa will be elaborated upon finalization of the preparatory assistance programme which is currently under consideration.

52. UNCHS (Habitat) is also exploring cooperation with OAU in assistance to refugees and returnees, as well as in international rail transportation, fields of human settlements amenable to south/south cooperation and subregional cooperation, all of which have a direct bearing on the African Economic Community.

J. World Food Council

53. The World Food Council (WFC) made a substantive contribution to the OAU document entitled "Towards a Framework for Common African Agricultural Programmes (CAAPs)".

54. During the reporting period, collaboration between WFC and OAU has been less active than in previous years. Nevertheless, the WFC ministerial session, to be held in Africa in June 1993 will provide an opportunity to renew collaboration with OAU. Possible areas that might be covered by renewed joint efforts could include:

(a) Hunger alleviation targets: WFC has drawn attention to the threat of famine in southern Africa and in several countries of eastern Africa, where severe droughts have seriously affected the food supply situation and the incidence of widespread malnutrition. WFC has also urged its African member countries to formulate specific domestic hunger-alleviation targets and supporting policies and programmes;

(b) New green revolution: For a WFC/UNDP expert consultation in Cairo last year, the WFC secretariat prepared an extensive review on the state of agricultural research and technological development in Africa, which still serves as a useful reference for Governments and supporting organizations. The urgent need for a green revolution was discussed at the meeting and could be an area for future cooperation with OAU;

(c) Further assessment of food-strategy experience: Given the important potential of food strategies to focus development plans and policies on hunger and poverty alleviation, WFC is exploring practical ways for improving coordination between Governments and bilateral as well as multilateral agencies in support of food strategies or food security policies and programmes. In order to advance the understanding of effective policies to

meet the food-security challenges of the 1990s, WFC has collaborated with the United States Department of Agriculture and the Agency for International Development in policy assessments in Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe, and intends to do the same in other countries. In the future, OAU may wish to cooperate in this field.

K. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

55. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) led a United Nations system-wide programme of assistance to OAU in the Common African Agricultural Programme (CAAP). CAAP will provide a policy and technical framework for regional agricultural cooperation under the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and for the Community's proposed protocol on food and agriculture. FAO prepared a framework paper for CAAP, and organized and funded a consultancy to develop a draft common African agricultural programme framework.

56. FAO is consulting with OAU on the implementation of the food security component of UNDP technical assistance to OAU. In particular, FAO has expressed its interest to OAU in exploring the possibility of providing technical support for the implementation of the UNDP/FAO food security component to ensure complementarity between activities planned by OAU in this area and those in which FAO is already engaged. FAO has suggested the establishment of an African food security network at Addis Ababa under the auspices of OAU, and with subregional food security coordinating units based in the main regional economic integration bodies, namely, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States. This FAO initiative addresses the food security concerns of article 46 of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community dealing with agricultural development and food production.

57. Animal health provided another major area of FAO/OAU cooperation. FAO continued to support the OAU Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign and the programme for the Control of African Trypanosomiasis. It continued to cooperate with OAU on strengthening the production and quality control of priority veterinary medicines. Through the OAU Inter-African Phytosanitary Council and the Scientific, Technical and Research Commission, FAO also cooperated with OAU in the fields of plant production and protection and fisheries respectively. Cooperation between FAO and OAU is envisaged in the operation of the FAO-sponsored Technical Cooperation Network on Agricultural Project Management.

L. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

58. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and OAU have pursued their cooperation through activities undertaken in member States, through the contacts between the UNESCO representative to OAU and the OAU Steering Committee, and through the meetings of the joint OAU/UNESCO Cooperation Committee.

59. In addition, the Director-General of UNESCO attended the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, held at Abuja, Nigeria, in 1991. UNESCO was also represented at various meetings of the Council of Ministers of OAU, as well as the twenty-third session of the OAU Coordinating Committee for Assistance to Refugees in Africa, held at Windhoek in April 1992.

60. OAU was represented at the General Conference held in Paris in October/November 1991, and its representative held discussions with the Director-General on ways and means of strengthening cooperation between UNESCO and OAU. OAU is invited regularly to participate in the regional activities organized in Africa as part of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery.

61. Cooperation between the two organizations for the current biennium covers the following areas, programmes and projects:

(a) Education: The role of African universities in development; and, the adult literacy centre at Niamey;

(b) Science and technology: Biotechnology and its applications in Africa; special programme of assistance for Africa; and, the African Informatics Plan;

(c) Environment and sustainable development: Final phase of preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, June 1992); and, development of machinery for monitoring the Conference at Rio de Janiero;

(d) Culture and development: Implementation of the medium-term African Cultural Development Plan (1991-1995);

(e) Communications: Promotion of an African pluralistic press;

(f) Human rights and elimination of apartheid: Training seminar for teachers; and, designing, producing and disseminating teaching materials;

(g) Women and youth: Literacy and continuous education for women in order to promote child health; women and the process of democratization in Africa; and, education, training and social reintegration of young people in difficult situations.

62. OAU has obtained assistance in the amount of US$ 45,000 under the Participation Programme for 1990-1991.

M. International Civil Aviation Organization

63. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has followed the policy of African economic integration laid down by OAU when providing assistance to African civil aviation and airport authorities to upgrade their efficiency, to finance required equipment and to maintain a high level of competence of their staff.

64. ICAO is implementing 70 country or regional projects throughout the African continent. Over 80 per cent of these projects are funded through UNDP, the remainder being funded by cost-sharing, trust funds or such sources as the AfDB of the World Bank. ICAO continues to support UNPAAERD and has participated in high-level meetings to review the implementation of the programme. ICAO also continues to play a very active role in the Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, contributing to the work of the Resources Mobilization Committee which has prepared the list of projects for the Decade.

65. ICAO continues to maintain a close and continuous working relationship with the African Civil Aviation Commission and provides the Commission with expert advice and secretariat assistance upon request. Documents and studies of interest to the African region are provided to OAU on a regular basis in order to allow it to maintain basic documentation on civil aviation matters. ICAO also works in close cooperation with subregional organizations in Africa on the development of international civil aviation, notably the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States and the Economic Communities of Central African and West African States.

66. OAU continues to be invited to ICAO meetings within its sphere of interest. ICAO in turn was represented at the relevant OAU meetings held during the period under review.

N. World Health Organization

67. WHO collaborated closely with OAU in organizing an extraordinary Conference of African Ministers for Health, which was held in Geneva on 5 May 1992, to prepare a draft declaration containing a six-point agenda for action to slow the epidemic of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and limit its devastating impact. At its meeting at Dakar from 29 June to 1 July 1992, the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government was expected to consider and adopt a declaration on AIDS, which would commit the leaders of Africa to giving full political support to mobilizing society as a whole to fight against AIDS and prevent the sexual transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV); and, make AIDS a top priority for external

resource allocation in line with the targets outlined by their Ministers for Health.

68. The Director-General of WHO has taken steps to strengthen the WHO liaison office which provides a direct link to OAU at Addis Ababa and to bring it under the aegis of his own office at WHO headquarters, thereby facilitating efficient collaboration in implementing OAU resolutions. OAU has been represented in meetings of the governing bodies of WHO at both global and regional levels, and WHO has participated in, and supported preparations for, OAU ministerial conferences.

69. In support of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, WHO is collaborating in the elaboration of protocols on human resources, social affairs, health and population, and is preparing a contribution to the formulation and implementation of a protocol on health. An important contribution to this effort is the "Accra Initiative on Health" emanating from the International Forum, held at Accra in December 1991, which has been instrumental in urging Governments to analyse the health impact of existing and future development projects, particularly relating to vulnerable groups, and to implement the necessary protective measures to safeguard, promote and improve the health status of affected populations, particularly women.

70. In preparation for a ministerial conference on malaria to be held in October 1992, an interregional conference was held at Brazzaville in October 1991, in which OAU played an active role.

71. A meeting of all African countries was called in May 1992 during the Health Assembly to review the growing threat of cholera in Africa and to work out an integrated strategy to fight it as a regional problem.

72. WHO has cooperated with OAU and other United Nations agencies, including FAO, in developing the OAU Secretary-General's initiative for the International Decade on Food and Nutrition in Africa (1992-2002). This initiative is linked to the International Conference on Nutrition organized by WHO and FAO, to be held in December 1992, and it is expected that all OAU member States will develop national plans of action for food and nutrition. On the basis of the technical advice of WHO, the OAU Council of Ministers adopted a resolution urging the 45 African countries affected to ensure universal use of iodinated salt.

73. The Pan-African Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response, established by WHO at Addis Ababa, has been placed under the technical and administrative supervision of the Director for Emergency Relief and Operations at WHO headquarters. This centre continues to provide technical support to the African countries in preparing for and responding to disasters. WHO also participated actively in the production of a consolidated appeal for the Horn of Africa and in the Special Emergency Programme for Humanitarian Affairs, established by the United Nations.

O. International Monetary Fund

74. The Fund continued to cooperate with OAU through its member States that are also Fund members, and at the United Nations through contacts between the Director of the Fund's Office at the United Nations (who is also the Special Representative of the Fund at the United Nations) and the OAU Steering Committee in relation to Africa's Priority Programme. The main vehicles for cooperation include financial assistance, external debt and aid coordination, policy advice, surveillance and technical assistance.

75. The Fund continued to provide its own financial resources under its different facilities, but especially under the Structural Adjustment Facility (SAF)/Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF), to African countries in support of their structural adjustment programmes. As at the end of March 1992, there were 29 programmes in place in various African countries. These included six stand-by arrangements, two arrangements under the extended Fund facility, six arrangements under SAF and 11 under ESAF. Total credit and loans granted by the Fund and outstanding to OAU member countries amounted to SDR 5.98 billion at the end of 1991. The Fund, in its catalytic role, also continued to mobilize additional resources for the African countries in the context of multilateral conferences on aid coordination through, inter alia, consultative group meetings and UNDP-sponsored round-table discussions, as well as debt rescheduling.

76. The Fund exercised its policy advice and surveillance functions through its regular consultations with OAU member States and by helping these countries to design adjustment programmes that could be supported by the Fund; it also continued to collaborate actively with regional organizations in Africa. The Fund also continued to provide extensive technical assistance for the effective management of policy reforms in many areas, including public finance, monetary policy, debt management and exchange rate management, as well as in the design of social safety nets. It has also offered training, both at headquarters and in the field, in financial analysis, public finance and the balance of payments.

P. Universal Postal Union

77. Cooperation between the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and OAU takes place within the framework of the joint activities of UPU and the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU), a specialized agency of OAU, and mainly in the field of technical assistance. The cooperation agreement concluded to this effect enables UPU and PAPU to coordinate their programmes and jointly carry out technical assistance activities funded by resources from both parties. From July 1991 to May 1992, a joint UPU-PAPU project was implemented in the form of a seminar on mail handling in ports and airports.

78. Using its own resources and within the framework of UNDP projects, UPU has supplied and continues to supply to the member States of PAPU substantial technical assistance in a variety of forms. During the above-mentioned

period, this comprised missions by experts/consultants relating, inter alia, to operational activities, studies, organization of services; fellowships for individual and group training; and, supply of postal operational equipment.

79. Since January 1991, that assistance has been enhanced by the presence in the field of two UPU regional advisers, who are providing sustained support to the postal administrators of the French, English, Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries of Africa. PAPU, being a restricted union according to article 8 of the UPU Constitution, supports the application of the decisions of the bodies of UPU before its member States.

80. Within the framework of the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, UPU heads the Postal Services Sectoral Working Party, the other members of which are PAPU, OAU, ECA and UNDP. In connection with that same activity, UPU initiated five regional projects, three of which were approved by the Resource Mobilization Committee with the active support of OAU and PAPU. These projects concern improvement of mail security, establishment of regional and subregional transit centres and, introduction of modular training systems in country and intercountry schools.

81. UPU intends to contribute to the implementation of the multi-year programme (1993-1996) which the PAPU secretariat submitted to that agency's Plenipotentiary Conference held in May 1992. UPU will coordinate with OAU and PAPU towards achieving the objectives set in the Treaty and elaborated in the Protocol on Transport and Communications in so far as the postal sector is concerned.

Q. International Telecommunication Union

82. Under the aegis of the Lagos Plan of Action, the cooperation of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) with OAU covers the following areas:

(a) Pan-african Telecommunication Network (PANAFTEL): OAU is a member of the PANAFTEL Coordinating Committee whose members share responsibility for political (OAU), economic (ECA), financial (AfDB), and technical (Pan African Telecommunication Union (PATU) and ITU) coordination in the implementation of the PANAFTEL network. The PANAFTEL project was terminated at the beginning of 1992. Although a document on a follow-up phase has been prepared, owing to a lack of financing, this phase has not yet been realized;

(b) Regional African Satellite Communications System (RASCOM): The project was developed under the coordination of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee (IACC), composed of 10 subregional, regional and international organizations, including OAU as Chairman, and ITU as the lead agency/coordinator. A RASCOM feasibility study was completed by the end of 1990, and an interim phase was started prior to full implementation of the project. The Conference of African Ministers responsible for telecommunications decided at their meeting at Abuja, from 4 to

6 February 1991, to proceed with the transitional stage of the project. During the interim phase, IACC has an advisory role;

(c) Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II): ITU has collaborated with OAU in the implementation of a wider range of telecommunication projects which fall under the aegis of UNTACDA II. The goal of the UNTACDA II programme is to establish an efficient integrated transport and communications system;

(d) African Telecommunication Development Conference (December 1990): In cooperation with OAU, ECA, AfDB, PATU and the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation of the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe, the African Telecommunication Development Conference was organized at Harare. It was the first periodic regional and world telecommunication development conference to be organized by the newly created Telecommunication Development Bureau of ITU. The Conference was attended by more than 200 high-level delegates from telecommunication administrations and broadcasting organizations of 47 African countries. In addition, there were more than 100 observers from development agencies as well as from manufacturing and consultancy firms. The Conference achieved its main objective, namely, to provide guidelines for Governments and for ITU for the development of telecommunications in Africa;

(e) United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UNPAAERD): ITU also participated in the implementation of UNPAAERD. In this regard, the Union continued to urge African Governments to accord priority to the development and expansion of telecommunications services at national and regional levels. ITU implemented telecommunications projects in Africa in 1990 and 1991, valued at US$ 17.8 and US$ 14.7 million respectively, from budgetary and extrabudgetary sources.

R. World Intellectual Property Organization

83. Within the framework of the cooperation agreement between WIPO and OAU, and as part of its programme to promote inventive and innovative activity in Africa, WIPO offered a gold medal to be awarded to an outstanding African inventor. On the basis of the selection by a jury composed of African personalities designated by OAU, the President of Nigeria awarded the medal to an Egyptian inventor on the occasion of the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, held at Abuja, Nigeria, in June 1991.

84. In December 1991 in cooperation with OAU, WIPO organized an African regional seminar on copyright at Kampala. This activity was requested by OAU as a means of disseminating information in Africa on copyright. WIPO financed, from its African regional project budget, the participation in the seminar of officials from Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire and Zimbabwe, as well as invited speakers from Algeria, Ghana, Switzerland, Uganda and the United States of America.

85. In April 1992, two WIPO officials visited the OAU headquarters at Addis Ababa and held discussions with the Secretary-General of OAU and senior OAU officials regarding cooperation between WIPO and OAU in the preparation of the Protocol on Science and Technology under the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community. It was agreed that WIPO should make comments and suggestions on the terms of reference for drafting the Protocol on Science and Technology and make inputs in respect of the preparation of the draft Protocol. During the period under review, WIPO also continued to strengthen its cooperation with intergovernmental organizations in Africa.

S. International Fund for Agricultural Development

86. By the end of 1991, assistance by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to the African region under the regular programme amounted to SDR 772.2 million (US$ 926 million) in loans and grants for 106 projects in 40 countries. In addition, by the end of 1991, under its Special Programme for sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification, IFAD provided SDR 198.9 million (US$ 257.7 million) for 29 projects in 19 countries, including grants for projects of SDR 6.8 million (US$ 8.4 million). In 1991, under the regular and special programme combined, 10 sub-Saharan African countries received SDR 85.6 million (US$ 116.6 million) in assistance for 10 projects. Of the total project costs of US$ 194 million, IFAD contributed 60.1 per cent.

87. The continuation of the special programme for a further three years starting on 1 January 1991 was recommended, and consultations already undertaken provided encouraging results. France has pledged US$ 40 million and other countries have indicated their willingness to make substantial pledges in the near future. The target set for the second phase of the special programme is US$ 300 million. In March 1991, the Council of Ministers of OAU adopted a resolution appealing to the international donor community to make all efforts to augment the resources of the second phase of the special programme. Poverty alleviation through environmental preservation will be the main objective of the second phase of the programme.

88. Since 1979, IFAD has awarded 60 technical assistance grants for research and training, channelled through international agricultural research centres. In Africa, the total amount of the Fund's grant support solely to agricultural research amounts to approximately US$ 42 million. During 1991, implementation of the fourth subprogramme of the Agricultural Management and Training Programme for Africa (AMTA IV) continued, although political disturbances in most of the participating countries caused some delays. Execution of AMTA IV is entrusted to the AfDB. An evaluation of AMTA undertaken jointly in 1991 by the participating agencies revealed its adequacy as a programme specifically geared to Africa's agricultural sector. The results of the evaluation will serve as guidelines for the design of future AMTA activities which are expected to cover all OAU member States in a sustainable manner.

IV. COOPERATION IN OTHER AREAS

A. World Meteorological Organization

89. In 1991, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) implemented some 40 national and regional projects funded by UNDP and other donors as well as by the regular budget of the organization. The total assistance to the African countries in 1991 was approximately US$ 18 million. These programmes are aimed at contributing as a priority to areas of the African countries mainly in the sectors of food and agriculture, environment, water, human resources development and science and technology. The major programmes which were implemented in 1991 were the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), established at Niamey, the AGRHYMET Programme for CILSS countries, the Drought Monitoring Centres for eastern and southern Africa established at Nairobi and Harare, the Hydrological Forecasting System for the River Niger Basin, regional meteorological training centres, regional meteorological specialized centres and the Tropical Cyclone Programme for South-west Indian Ocean countries member countries.

90. In addition to the above-mentioned programmes, OAU hydrology projects such as the International Hydrological Map of Africa are benefiting from the efforts made by WMO, UNESCO and UNDP to establish adequate networks and water resources master plans in the African countries. WMO is organizing, in cooperation with ECA, an African conference on hydrological services which is to be held in 1993. Within the framework of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), WMO is participating in the Inter-Agency Work Group (IAWG) of AMCEN and in the work of the committees and networks established by AMCEN. WMO is also cooperating with UNEP in its desertification programme for Africa through its world climate programme activities. In the context of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, WMO is collaborating closely with OAU in the assessment and development of strategies for African countries involved in aspects of disaster reduction related to weather and climate, such as tropical cyclones, floods, droughts and storm surges.

91. WMO also cooperated with OAU and ECA in preparation of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in 1992 through its participation in the various regional meetings concerning the theme of environment and sustainable development. WMO participated in the OAU Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development in Africa, held at Bamako from 23 to 30 January 1991, where factors such as climate and climate change, water resources, energy resources, tropical cyclones, global warming and ozone layer depletion were considered essential in any future planning for sustainable development in Africa.

92. Economic groupings such as SADCC, IGADD, the Economic Commission of the Great Lakes Countries, CILSS, the Union of the Arab Maghreb and the Indian Ocean Commission have introduced meteorology as an area of regional cooperation. ECOWAS has considered a cooperation agreement, while ECCAS is studying such a possibility. WMO has been assisting the groupings in the

development of the programmes and in their implementation. With regard to the Common African Agricultural Programme (CAAP), WMO provided specific inputs. The modalities of the possible contribution of WMO to the Protocol on Environment and others could be defined.

93. In view of the importance of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and the Protocols to the future development of Africa, it is essential that aspects of weather, water, climate and environment be explicitly recognized. In this regard, it would be appropriate if consultations between the two organizations were organized on a routine basis and the modalities of such consultation and cooperation were defined and formalized.

B. International Maritime Organization

94. At the national level, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has assisted the following African maritime training centres from January 1991 to March 1992:

Algeria	Institut Supérieur Maritime, Bou-Ismail
Cape Verde	Centro de Formacao Náutica, Mindelo
Egypt	Alexandria Maritime Transport Academy, Alexandria
Kenya	Bandari College, Mombasa
Madagascar	Ecole Nationale d'Enseignement Maritime, Mahajanga
Malawi	Marine Training College, Monkey Bay
Morocco	Institut Supérieur d'Etudes Maritimes, Casablanca
Nigeria	Maritime Academy of Nigeria, Oron
Senegal	Ecole Nationale de Formation Maritime, Dakar
Somalia	Somali Maritime Institute, Mogadishu
Tunisia	Ecole de la Marine Merchande, Sousse
United Republic of Tanzania	Marine Training Institute, Dar es Salaam

95. On the regional level, IMO continues to support the Regional Academy of Maritime Science and Technology at Abidjan for French-speaking countries, and the Regional Maritime Academy at Accra, for English-speaking African countries. These projects promote self-sufficiency in the manpower and technological capacity of the west and central African subregion, including the following LDCs: Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Gambia, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Sierra Leone and Togo.

96. Maritime training at the global level is currently imparted with IMO support to the following institutions:

(a) World Maritime University (WMU) at Malmö, Sweden, where specialized training is provided at the post-graduate degree level. Twenty-eight students from 18 African countries were enrolled at WMU in 1991 and, in 1992, 24 students from 14 African countries. WMU has now established 11 branches world wide, including five branches in Africa. These WMU branches conduct IMO model short courses in addition to other courses;

(b) IMO International Maritime Academy at Trieste, Italy, at which IMO specialized short courses are conducted. Seventeen students from 10 African countries attended the Academy in 1991 and 1992;

(c) IMO International Maritime Law Institute in Malta, which 14 students from as many African countries attended during 1991.

97. IMO has acted as the executing agency for numerous national and regional projects undertaken within the framework of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa (1992-2000), in cooperation with ECA and OAU. At present, it is implementing or providing assistance to projects in 40 countries in Africa, including seven regional projects. In addition, nine seminars and workshops on national and regional bases were conducted in Africa during 1991.

98. Under the leadership of ECA, in 1991 IMO developed a project on Human Resources and Institutional Development for the Maritime Sector with UNDP funding. Six case studies on national shipping companies were undertaken and a model summary report was elaborated. This led to six workshops held in East and West Africa, during which a strategy was set up with a view to developing and enhancing human resources particularly in terms of management and training. Phase two of this project will be developed under the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa (1992-2000) under the leadership of ECA and in association with other specialized agencies for all transport and communications.

99. Activities undertaken by IMO in the environmental field include an IMO/UNEP cooperation programme, which for many years has been an important element in the implementation of activities under the Regional Seas Action Plans covering African countries.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 81, document A/46/731, para. 17.